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NORTH • COAST  
DISTIUBUTING

September 12, 2003

Chief, Regulations/Proccdures Division  
Tax and Trade Bureau  
P.O. Box 50221  
Washington, DC 20091-0221

Dear Sir or Madanv

North Coast Distributing, Inc. is in favor of the current proposed rule, 2001R-136P, issued in March 2003 by the Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB). This specific rule outlines the alcohol content requirements in order for flavored malt beverages (FMBs) to be classified as beer. If a FMB product is to be sold as a malt beverage, it should be made as a malt beverage. This rule will help maintain order in the marketplace while avoiding costly confusion over distribution, licensing and taxation.

Throughout the history of this great country beer has been regulated and taxed differently than other althohol beverages. Protect the integrity of beer and the brewing process. North Coast Distributing, Inc. urges the TTB to give final approval to the proposed 0.5% standard on FMBs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerel

Bruce H. Leetz  
President

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